



DATE: 4/28/05

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED LANDSCAPE STABILIZATION AND
EROSION PREVENTION PLAN**

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has directed the preparation of and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project, in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. DPR is the lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA.

Project Location: Mill Creek Acquisition, Del Norte Redwoods State Park
Highway 101 and Hamilton Road
Del Norte County

Description of the Proposed Project:

DPR proposes to make the improvements described herein to the Mill Creek Acquisition (MCA) watersheds. The following is a summary of the planned improvements:

1) Full Road Recontouring

The plan will implement road recontouring on approximately 93 miles of abandoned, unstable inner-gorge, mid-slope and ridge top service and skid roads within the Mill Creek Watersheds. The work will include excavation of embankment fill from roads and stabilization of excavated materials on cutbench to fully recontour natural (pre-disturbance) topography. All of the roads proposed for treatment under this plan are currently impassable and could not serve as part of a transportation network.

2) Stream Crossing Removal

The project includes removal of fill material from 351 stream crossings associated with the service and skid roads described above. The majority of the crossings will have no flow during the proposed construction season and are typically small fill crossings. Most of the crossings are already partially removed and many are actively failing. Stream crossing removal will include removal of road and landing fill from stream channels and floodplains. Placing excavated material against nearby road cut slopes and recontouring to match the natural slopes will stabilize the crossings. Stream channel bed, banks, and adjacent slopes will be restored to their pre-crossing configuration. Longitudinal stream gradient will be reestablished through the crossing site.

Public Review Period:

The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, beginning April 29, 2005. Questions regarding project specifics should be directed to Brian Merrill, Project Manager, at 707-445-6547.

Your views and comments on this project are welcomed. Written comments regarding this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration should be submitted to the following address:

John E. Harris
California Department of Parks & Recreation
North Coast Redwoods District
P.O. Box 2006
Eureka, CA 95502

Submissions must be postmarked no later than May 29, 2005.

Copies of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be reviewed at the following locations during normal business hours:

California Department of Parks & Recreation
Northern Service Center
One Capitol Mall - Suite 410
Sacramento, California 95814

California Department of Parks & Recreation
North Coast Redwoods District
3431 Fort Avenue
Eureka, California 95503

Del Norte County Library
190 Price Mall
Crescent City, CA 95531

Department of Parks and Recreation website
http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=981